Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

If the Government is not able to answer a question put by a member such a thing ought not to come from the President. We want the Council to develop.

PRESIDENT.

Its development is not being retarded by getting full information affecting the administration. Does it in any way affect the development of the Council ?

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

All officials are to answer questions.

PRESIDENT.

That means full information is made available to the House.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

You can call them outside the Hall and tell them the answers.

PRESIDENT.

Am I to call each member outside ? Each member has his own business. The Diwan too has got his own business. Let them understand things properly. Probably, you do not want full information. I had to say something on these contract negotiations and all those things. So I gave all the facts. That is all. I make a clear discrimination, when I occupy the Presidential Chair. I don t know whether I am going outside my province as President. The matter of questions and answers is simple, because the members must have full knowledge. In other respects, I don't take any privilege at all to satisfy you by supplying information on all points

The Publication of the "Excise Manual".

Mr. M. K. RAMAN.

197. Will the Government be pleased to state when the compilation of the *Excise Manual* was first ordered ?

Why was its publication delayed still ?

Mr. V. B. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR.

In 1084 M. E.

The Special Officer who was asked to do the work in co-operation with the then Excise Superintendent, Mr. Brown, had also to attend to the compilation of other more urgent Departmental Manuals and Codes, such as the *Land Revenue Manual, the Village Officers' Manual, the Police Manual, the Forest and the Public Works Codes*, &c., which had already been taken up in hand. The Excise Department was also at that time in a stage

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of transition due to the necessity of introducing several reforms in its administration with a view to bringing it on a line with the Madras Excise Department, which had to be done gradually and with caution, after watching the effect of each new step taken. When the preparation of the *Manual* was actually begun, it was found necessary to amend some of the then existing laws and to frame revised rules thereunder. Nevertheless, some progress was made in the work. Mr. Brown's successor not having sufficient experience in the department, the Assistant Superintendent was specially put in charge of the work. Under him much progress was made in the work, and it was half done. After the Assistant Superintendent severed his connection with the department, the present Superintendent has taken up the business. It is hoped to finish it as early as practicable.

The Importation of foreign liquor into the State.

Mr. M. K. RAMAN.

198. Will the Government be pleased to state

(a) What quantity of foreign liquors was permitted to be imported into the State during the years 1099 and 1100?

(b) What was the total duty paid to the British Government on that?

(c) If these liquors are found to be absolutely necessary in the State, cannot similar liquors be manufactured here?

Mr. V. B. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR.

(a) *1099.* 2,575 quarts and 381 cases.

1100. 1981 quarts and 529 cases.

(b) Government paid no duty, nor is there any information as to the amount of duty paid by the importers.

(c) Not tried for want of facilities.

Revenues from sale of bamboos.

Mr. E. IKKANDA WARIAR.

199. Will the Government be pleased to state

(a) The revenue derived from the sale of bamboo from the Government Forests for the last 2 years?

(b) Is there any separate or special establishment or hands maintained for selling bamboos, and, if so, what special expenditure tne Geovernment had to incur on that account for the same period?

Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON.

(a) Rs. 4,839—12—0 in 1099. Rs. 6,048—4—0 in 1100.

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